

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Lactic acid menthyl ester compacts, wherein the lactic acid menthyl ester content in the compact is at least ~~80~~ 95 % (m/m).
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Originally Presented) The compacts as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said lactic acid menthyl ester is 1-lactic acid 1-menthyl ester.
5. (Currently Amended) The compacts as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said compact is formed by a process comprising compression of ~~ingredients and~~ flaked lactic acid menthyl ester, ~~is used in said compression.~~
6. (Originally Presented) The compacts as claimed in Claim 1 exhibiting the form of spheres, cubes, cuboids, cushions, cylinders, tablets, pellets or briquettes.
7. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) A method for the preparation of lactic acid menthyl ester compacts according to claim 1, ~~wherein the lactic acid menthyl ester content in the finished compact is at least 80 % (m/m).~~ by compressing flaked lactic acid menthyl ester having a purity of at least 95% (m/m) in a compactor.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said lactic acid menthyl ester is 1-lactic acid 1-menthyl ester is used.

In the Application of:
Alfred KORBER
Serial No. 10/608,416

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11. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said compact is formed by a process comprising compression of ingredients and the compression is carried out using a pressing force in the range of 10 - 100 kN.
12. (Cancelled)